

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 /030 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3755

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 2367

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, AIFLD, GY, US

SUBJECT: AFL-CIO/AIFLD DELEGATION ENDS VISIT

REF: STATE 274294

1. SIX-MAN AFL-CIO/AIFLD DELEGATION (COMPRISED OF SOL STETIN, GEORGE OBEA, A.L. MONROE, ANDREW MCCLELLAN, CARVIN JEFFERSON, AND VIC BEASLEY) ENDED 24-HOUR VISIT HERE NOVEMBER 24.

2. GROUP MET WITH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF GUYANA TRADE'S UNION CONGRESS (TUC) FOLLOWED BY RECEPTION ON NOVEMBER 23. MEETING WAS DIPLOMATICALLY DESCRIBED AS "FRANK AND OPEN." EXCO MEMBERS RAISED ISSUE OF POSSIBLE U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN CUBANA CRASH AND TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEIR PREFERENCE FOR SOCIALIST SOLUTIONS TO GUYANA'S PROBLEMS. U.S. DELEGATION FELT DISCUSSION WAS SURPRISINGLY ANTI-U.S., ALTHOUGH IT ENDED WITH A TUC EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN FURTHER AID FROM U.S. LABOR OTHER THAN AIFLD DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. QUESTION OF TUC AFFILIATION WITH SOVIET-DOMINATED WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS REMAINS UNRESOLVED.

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3. MINISTER OF LABOR RECEIVED DELEGATION FOLLOWING DAY. MEETING WITH PM BURNHAM HAD SUPPOSEDLY BEEN APPROVED, BUT DID NOT OCCUR DUE TO TIME FACTOR.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE "FRANKNESS" OF EXCO SESSION, TUC LEADERS REMAINED CORDIAL. SOME MEMBERS OF U.S. DELEGATION SEEMED DISTURBED BY SOCIALIST RHETORIC OF SEVERAL TUC LEADERS, OF WHOM THE MAJORITY IS SUPPORTIVE OF SOME INCONDITE FORM OF SOCIALISM, BUT REMAINS RELATIVELY IGNORANT OF MARXIST-LENINIST PRINCIPLES. THE TUC'S RECEPTION OF THE DELEGATION IS INDICATIVE OF THE LOCAL LABOR MOVEMENT'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH U.S. LABOR, BUT ON GUYANESE TERMS. THIS INCLUDES THE TUC'S EXPANSION OF RELATIONS WITH LABOR ORGANIZATIONS FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AND ITS SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOME FORM OF SOCIALISM IN GUAYANA.
MCCOY

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Message Attributes

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